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# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**72-HOUR REPORT** 

10 October 2016

### (U) CALIFORNIA

### (U) Palm Springs – Suspect Arrested in Fatal Shooting of Two Officers

(U) A suspect arrested in the fatal shooting of two California police officers had high-capacity ammunition magazines and concealable soft body armor when he was captured, law enforcement authorities said yesterday. John Felix, 26, was taken into custody by a SWAT team in Palm Springs early yesterday morning after an hours-long standoff that began when four officers arrived at the home to investigate a report of a family dispute. The officers came under fire soon after arriving at the residence in response to a call from a woman who said her son was causing a disturbance, police said. The officers killed were Jose Vega, 63, a veteran of the Palm Springs Police Department who planned to retire in December, and Lesley Zerebny, 27, who was on the force for a year and a half and had just returned from maternity leave after giving birth to a daughter.

SOURCE: 9 October 2016, Reuters

### (U) NATIONAL

# (U) District of Columbia - US Formally Accuses Russian Hackers of Political Cyber Attacks

(U) Washington – The US government for the first time on Friday formally accused Russia of a campaign of cyber attacks against Democratic Party organizations ahead of the 8 November presidential election. "We believe, based on the scope and sensitivity of these efforts, that only Russia's senior-most officials could have authorized these activities," a US government statement said on Friday about hacking of political groups. US intelligence officials concluded weeks ago that the Russian government was conducting or orchestrating cyber attacks against the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, possibly to disrupt or discredit the election, in which Democrat Hillary Clinton faces Republican Donald Trump.

SOURCE: 7 October 2016, Reuters

### (U) New York – Schools Warn of 'Virtual Kidnapping' Scam Targeting Parents

(U) New York – Schools across the US are warning about a scam to convince parents that their children have been kidnapped — even though they haven't — and to collect ransom money. Cases of "virtual kidnapping" have been reported over the past two months in Virginia, California, Texas, Arizona and other states. Authorities say the scam often targets the parents of college students, tricking some into paying thousands of dollars and appears to be on the rise nationally. Usually, the ransom demand is between \$600 and \$1,900, according to the FBI's New York field office, which issued a warning about the scam in January 2015.

SOURCE: 7 October 2016, Reuters

#### (U) INTERNATIONAL

# (U) Germany - German Police Arrest Syrian Man Wanted in Alleged Bomb Plot

(U) Leipzig – Three Syrians in Germany recognized a terror suspect from a police wanted poster, tied him up in their apartment and called police today, ending a nearly two-day hunt, authorities said. Jaber

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Albakr, 22, a Syrian man who was granted asylum in Germany, is suspected of preparing a bomb attack in the country with high explosives. He was motivated by Islamic extremism and likely linked to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, police and prosecutors said. According to an investigator, Albakr had been on the radar of the country's domestic intelligence agency since last month. An Investigator said that, at this stage of the investigation, "the behavior and actions of the suspect currently speak for an IS context."

SOURCE: 10 October 2016, Associated Press

## (U) Mexico – Authorities Report Cases of Zika Linked Guillain-Barre Syndrome

(U) Mexico City – Five cases of Guillain-Barre syndrome associated with the Zika virus infection have been confirmed in Mexico, the country's Secretary of Health said last week. To date, Mexico has reported a total of 3,268 locally acquired cases of the Zika virus, which has also been linked to the birth defect microcephaly. Guillain-Barre, a condition in which the body's immune system attacks part of the peripheral nervous system, causes gradual weakness in the legs, arms and upper body, and, occasionally, temporary paralysis.

SOURCE: 7 October 2016, Reuters

## (U) Turkey – Two Bombers Blow Themselves Up After Police Stop

(U) Ankara – Two suicide bombers blew themselves up after refusing to surrender to police during an operation in the outskirts of the capital Ankara Saturday, a senior official said. Governor Erkan Topaca said police, acting on a tip, launched an operation to catch a man and a woman who were suspected of planning a suicide car bombing in Ankara. They were hiding inside a hut at a horse farm in the district of Haymana, just outside of the capital. No one else was killed or hurt in the incident.

SOURCE: 8 October 2016, The New York Times

# (U) Yemen – Two Missiles Fired at US Navy Ship from Rebel-Held Yemen Territory

(U) Sana'a – Two missiles were fired yesterday at a US Navy destroyer in the Red Sea from territory occupied by Iran-allied Yemeni rebels, but they missed, the Pentagon said. The attack occurred as the USS Mason was conducting routine operations in international waters, the Pentagon said in a brief statement. The two missiles were fired over the course of an hour and "impacted the water before reaching the ship," according to the statement. No injuries or damage were reported in the attack, which the Pentagon said originated from territory controlled by Shiite Houthi rebels fighting the government of President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi.

SOURCE: 10 October 2016, NBC News

#### (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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